



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

Thursday, January 18, 2007

BROOKS JOINS NYPA OFFICIALS TO ANNOUNCE STATE INVESTMENT IN MILL SEAT

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks was joined by State Senator James S. Alesi, New York Power Authority (NYPA) Trustee Michael Townsend, Waste Management District Manager Jeff Richardson and other local officials to announce a \$200,000 state grant and \$9.5 million in low-cost financing from the NYPA to assist construction of the County's Landfill Gas to Electricity plant. The \$9.7 million project will produce 4.8 megawatts of power.

*"This innovative project offers environmental and economic benefits," said **County Executive Brooks**. "Harnessing the energy in the landfill allows us to access a productive source of power. With the state grant and NYPA low-cost financing, Monroe County taxpayers will benefit from this initiative for many years to come."*

*"New York State is providing a \$200,000 grant from Petroleum Overcharge Restitution (POCR) funds," said **Senator Alesi**. "The funds, administered for the state by the NYPA, are the proceeds of court settlements relating to major oil company violations of federal price controls in the 1970's and 1980's. My solid commitment to the environment, as well as my vision for economic development are part and parcel of my support for this funding."*

*"NYPA is actively working with local governments across the state to promote energy-efficiency and clean energy technologies," said **NYPA Trustee Townsend**. "Monroe County is setting a great example with this landfill project designed to capitalize on a local, renewable energy resource."*

*"In addition to other benefits of this project, we're glad to be doing our part to lessen the reliance on imported oil as an energy source," said **Waste Management District Manager Jeff Richardson**. "Using our landfill gas to produce electricity is the annual equivalent of more than 110,000 barrels of oil."*

Monroe County has partnered with Waste Management to operate the Mill Seat Landfill, and produce a renewable energy resource that will further move Monroe County towards greater energy independence. Today's announcement also reinforces the County Executive's strong commitment to our region's natural environment, and further establishes Monroe County as one of New York State's leaders in promoting the usage of alternative energy.

Mill Seat Construction

Page 2

The new 10,000 sq. ft. renewable energy facility being constructed at the Mill Seat Landfill will house eight Caterpillar 3516 reciprocating engines. Once on-line and operational, these engines will generate nearly 4.8 megawatts of energy - enough to replace more than 110,000 barrels of oil – and to generate electricity for more than 4,000 homes.

Energy is produced at Mill Seat following the decomposition of organic waste material located within the landfill. The decomposition of the materials produces methane gas, which is harnessed and transported to the compression facility through a series of wells and pipes. The gas is de-watered, filtered and pressurized at the compression facility, and is then piped to the generators, where the fuel turns the engines; thus producing electricity.

Once the energy is produced at the landfill, it will be sent to a National Grid transmission line in Churchville, where it can be released into the central grid. Utility companies would then have the option to purchase this new power generated from Mill Seat.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the energy produced from a 4.8 megawatt facility such as Mill Seat would produce the following benefits:

- Removing emissions equivalent to 53,575 vehicles
- Planting 76,345 acres of forest
- Offsetting the use of 1,369 railcars of coal
- Averting electricity usage of 500,623 light bulbs

In addition, the EPA also estimates that a 4.8 megawatt facility would consume 12,749 tons of methane gas annually, while saving 37,647 tons of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere.

(For further information, please refer to the EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program – located at <http://www.epa.gov/lmop/res/calc.htm>)

*“Mill Seat is a true step forward in our continuing efforts to become more energy independent, utilize renewable energy resources, and promote a cleaner...and greener Monroe County,” continued **Brooks**. “Working with our partners at Waste Management, I know that our County’s efforts to provide renewable energy resources will produce continued success in the months and years to come.”*

###